

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 5, 1999

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 1, 1999

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 152**

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**Introduced by Senator Johannessen**

January 7, 1999

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An act to add Section 79.2 to the Military and Veterans Code, relating to veterans.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 152, as amended, Johannessen. Deputy Secretary for the California Veterans Home.

Existing law provides for the establishment and operation of the California veterans home at various sites for aged and disabled veterans who meet certain eligibility criteria. Existing law requires each California veterans home to be under the management and control of the Department of Veterans Affairs and, subject to the policies adopted by the Board of Veterans Affairs and the direction of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, to be administered by an administrator.

This bill would create within the department the position of Deputy Secretary for the California Veterans Home, who would be appointed by the secretary, for the purpose of overseeing and monitoring all aspects of medical care that is being provided to men and women veterans who are residents at any California veterans home.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 79.2 is added to the Military and  
2 Veterans Code, to read:

3 79.2. (a) In addition to the Undersecretary of  
4 Veterans Affairs, there is within the department, and the  
5 secretary shall appoint, a Deputy Secretary for the  
6 California Veterans Home.

7 ~~(b) The deputy secretary, who shall be a veteran as~~  
8 ~~defined in Section 18540.4 of the Government Code, shall~~  
9 ~~be a medical doctor who holds a valid, unrevoked, and~~  
10 ~~unsuspended license to practice medicine in this state. It~~  
11 ~~is preferable that the deputy secretary also hold a degree~~  
12 ~~in gerontology or have training and experience in the~~  
13 ~~care of older persons, or both.~~

14 *(b) The deputy secretary shall be a veteran, as defined*  
15 *in Section 18540.4 of the Government Code. It is*  
16 *preferable that the deputy secretary is a medical doctor*  
17 *who holds a valid, unrevoked, and unsuspended license*  
18 *to practice medicine in this state, or is a professionally*  
19 *trained hospital administrator with (1) experience in*  
20 *managing a multihospital organization and (2) training*  
21 *or experience in the care of the elderly.*

22 (c) The role of the deputy secretary shall be to oversee  
23 and monitor all aspects of medical care that is being  
24 provided to men and women veterans who are residents  
25 in any California veterans home.

